

# MISSOURI MONTHLY VITAL STATISTICS

## *Provisional Statistics*

*From The*



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## *Focus. . .1999 Vital Statistics*

Missouri's overall mortality rate in 1999 remained the same as in 1998 with 10.2 deaths per 1,000 persons, according to the Missouri Department of Health. The number of deaths slightly increased in 1999 as 55,732 Missourians died compared with 54,849 in 1998 and 50,169 in 1989. Life expectancy slightly decreased from 75.8 years in 1998 to 75.7 years in 1999, primarily because of an increase in mortality among people aged 75 and over.

The four leading causes of death remained the same: (1) Heart Disease - 17,954 deaths; (2) Cancer - 12,177 deaths; (3) Stroke - 4,018 deaths; and (4) Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (COPD) - 3,063 deaths. Cancer mortality declined in 1999 while heart, stroke and chronic obstructive lung disease deaths increased. The cancer death rate is the lowest since 1988, and despite the 1999 increase, heart disease mortality has declined for the last two decades.

Increased cancer screening, hypertension screening, decreased intake of fat from animal sources and better quality of health care are some of the factors influencing these positive trends.

Conversely, COPD mortality rates continue the increasing trend of the past twenty years. Much of the increase in COPD deaths occurred among women and is mostly attributed to cigarette smoking.

Unintentional injuries moved into the 5th spot in 1999 from 6th in 1998 as 2,303 Missourians died from this cause. Overall, unintentional injury deaths decreased slightly. Motor vehicle crash deaths declined by 7 percent in 1999 while other unintentional injury deaths increased by less than 1 percent. The latter occurred despite a large increase in heat-related deaths from 12 to 92 due to a hot spell in late July of last year.

Pneumonia and influenza, the 6th leading cause of death, decreased by over 30 percent in 1999, primarily due to a change in the causes of death classification system. The 7th to 10th leading causes in 1999 were diabetes, Alzheimer's Disease,

nephritis (kidney disease) and suicide, respectively.

While infant mortality rose only slightly in 1999 from 7.6 to 7.7 per 1,000 live births, the racial-ethnic disparity in infant mortality increased substantially. Infant mortality among African-Americans rose from 16.7 in 1998 to 19.0 per 1,000 live births, while it decreased from 6.1 to 5.8 for whites during the same period. The ratio of African-American to white infant mortality increased to more than three to one in 1999.

The increase in African-American infant deaths was primarily in neonatal deaths (dying within the first 28 days of life), among those weighing less than 3 pounds, 3 ounces (very low birth weight) and in the St. Louis area. Thus the increase is primarily related to prematurity, the causes of which are not clear.

Positive birth-related changes in 1999 include the following:

- \* The rate of inadequate prenatal care decreased from 11.0 to 10.5 percent, the lowest on record.
- \* Teen births decreased by 2.5 percent from 10,417 to 10,156. The rate of teen births (13.5 percent of all births) is the lowest since 1987. Early teen (less than age 18) births decreased from 3,616 in 1998 to 3,386 in 1999.
- \* The rate of maternal smoking during pregnancy decreased from 19.0 in 1998 to 18.3 percent, the lowest since 1978 when smoking during pregnancy data was first collected.
- \* Abortions decreased by 1.2 percent in 1999 to 12,600. This represents a one-third decrease in abortions over the last ten years.

Other 1999 vital statistics showed the following:

- \* The low birth weight (less than 5.5 pounds) rate stayed the same in 1998 and 1999, 7.8 percent.
- \* The rates of out-of-wedlock births and short spacing (less than 18 months between births) both increased slightly.
- \* Mothers on WIC and food stamps decreased in 1999, while mothers on Medicaid increased.
- \* Following nine consecutive years of decreases, marriages increased in 1999, from 43,685 to 44,369.
- \* Divorces decreased in 1999 from 25,305 in 1998 to 24,583.

(continued on next page)

**Table 1**  
**Vital Statistics for Missouri: 1989, 1998 and Provisional 1999**

	<i>Numbers</i>			<i>Rates per 1,000 Population</i>		
	<i>1989</i>	<i>1998</i>	<i>1999 (Prov.)</i>	<i>1989</i>	<i>1998</i>	<i>1999 (Prov.)</i>
Births	77,755	75,242	75,366	15.3	13.8	13.8
Deaths	50,169	54,849	55,732	9.8	10.1	10.2
Natural Increases	27,586	20,393	19,634	5.4	3.7	3.6
Marriages	50,331	43,685	44,369	9.9	8.0	8.1
Divorces	25,140	25,305	24,583	4.9	4.7	4.5
Infant Deaths	767	573	581	9.9*	7.6*	7.7*
Abortions	18,639	12,751	12,600	239.7*	169.4*	167.2*
Population (1,000s)	5,096	5,439	5,468			

\*Per 1,000 live births

**Table 2**  
**Leading Causes of Deaths with Rates: Missouri 1989, 1998 and Provisional 1999**

	<i>Numbers</i>			<i>Rates per 100,000 Pop.</i>		
	<i>1989</i>	<i>1998</i>	<i>1999 (Prov.)</i>	<i>1989</i>	<i>1998</i>	<i>1999 (Prov.)</i>
<b><u>Leading Causes of Death</u></b>						
Heart.....	17,633	17,841	17,954	346.0	328.0	328.3
Cancer.....	11,614	12,377	12,177	227.9	227.6	222.7
Lung Cancer.....	3,422	3,876	3,632	67.2	71.3	66.4
Stroke.....	3,458	3,962	4,018	67.9	72.8	73.5
Chronic Pulmonary Disease.....	2,204	2,735	3,063	43.2	50.3	56.0
Unintentional Injury...	2,017	2,381	2,303	39.6	43.8	42.1
Motor Vehicle.....	1,047	1,159	1,074	20.5	21.3	19.6
Other.....	970	1,222	1,229	19.0	22.5	22.5
Pneumonia & Influenza	1,824	2,438	1,678	35.8	44.8	30.7
Diabetes.....	1,073	1,390	1,553	21.1	25.6	28.4
Alzheimer's Disease.....	345	529	920	6.8	9.7	16.8
Nephritis & Nephrosis..	520	706	915	10.2	13.0	16.7
Suicide.....	669	691	698	13.1	12.7	12.8
Septicemia.....	387	511	623	7.6	9.4	11.4
Homicide.....	448	441	382	8.8	8.1	7.0
AIDS.....	283	145	148	5.6	2.7	2.7
Maternal Deaths.....	5	10	12	6.4**	13.3**	15.9**

\*\* Per 100,000 live births

Note: Cause of death classification systems changed in 1999, thereby affecting many of the leading causes of death, especially pneumonia and influenza, chronic pulmonary disease, diabetes, nephritis and Alzheimer's Disease.

**Table 3**  
**Trends in Maternal and Child Health Statistics: Missouri 1989, 1998 and Provisional 1999**

	<i>Numbers</i>			<i>Rates</i>		
	<i>1989</i>	<i>1998</i>	<i>1999</i> <i>(Prov.)</i>	<i>1989</i>	<i>1998</i>	<i>1999</i> <i>(Prov.)</i>
Infant Deaths	767	573	581	9.9	7.6	7.7
White	539	378	361	8.4	6.1	5.8
Black	221	190	213	17.2	16.7	19.0
Low Birth Weight	5,389	5,896	5,844	6.9	7.8	7.8
White	3,644	4,173	4,167	5.7	6.7	6.7
Black	1,679	1,600	1,548	13.1	14.1	13.8
Inadequate Prenatal Care	1 3,289	8,111	7,676	17.6	11.0	10.5
White	8,679	5,281	5,015	13.9	8.6	8.2
Black	4,386	2,580	2,380	36.4	23.7	22.6
Birth Spacing<18 mos.	5,979	4,459	4,558	13.2	10.5	10.8
Out-of-Wedlock Births	21,105	25,650	25,729	27.1	34.1	34.2
Teen (10-19) Births	10,942	10,417	10,154	14.1	13.8	13.5
Early Teen (10-17) Births	3,984	3,616	3,386	5.1	4.8	4.5
Smoking During Pregnancy	19,843	14,309	13,766	25.5	19.0	18.3
Medicaid Births	19,858	28,847	29,161	26.4	39.7	40.2
WIC Births	24,430	29,714	29,312	32.5	40.9	40.4
Food Stamps Births	13,473	12,005	11,679	17.9	16.5	16.1
Abortions	18,639	12,751	12,600			
Live Births	77,755	75,242	75,366			

**Table 4**  
**Trends in Life Expectancies (Years) by Gender: Missouri 1950-1999**

Year	Male	Female	Difference
1950	65.6	71.3	5.7
1960	66.9	73.6	6.7
1970	66.8	74.7	7.9
1975	68.4	76.4	8.0
1980	69.9	77.6	7.7
1985	71.2	78.3	7.1
1990	71.7	78.9	7.2
1991	71.5	78.9	7.4
1992	71.8	79.1	7.3
1993	71.6	78.7	7.1
1994	71.7	78.6	6.9
1995	71.8	78.6	6.8
1996	72.4	78.5	6.1
1997	72.6	78.6	6.0
1998	72.9	78.5	5.6
1999 (Prov.)	72.8	78.5	5.7

## Provisional Vital Statistics for May 2000

**Live births** increased in May as 6,532 Missouri babies were born compared with 5,853 one year earlier. Cumulative births for the 5- and 12- month periods ending with May also show increases. In January - May, births increased by 1.1 percent from 30,681 in 1999 to 31,026 in 2000.

**Deaths** increased in May as 4,410 Missourians died compared with 4,233 in May 1999. Cumulative deaths for 5- and 12- month periods ending with May also show increases.

The **Natural increase** for Missouri in May was 2,122 (6,532 births minus 4,410 deaths). This compares with a natural increase of 1,620 one year earlier.

**Marriages** increased for all three time periods shown in the table below. For January - May, marriages increased by 13.6 percent from 13,514 to 15,346.

**Dissolutions of marriage** decreased in May, but increased for the 5- and 12- month periods ending with May.

**Infant deaths** increased slightly in May as 44 Missouri infants died compared with 41 one year earlier. Little change is shown for the cumulative periods. For the 12 months ending with May, the rate was the same for the last two years, 7.7 per 1,000 live births.

### PROVISIONAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR MAY 2000

Item	May				Jan-May cumulative				12 months ending with May				
	Number		Rate*		Number		Rate*		Number		Rate*		
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1998	1999	1998	1999	2000
<b>Live Births .....</b>	5,853	6,532	12.2	14.1	30,681	31,026	13.5	13.5	75,654	76,103	13.7	13.9	13.9
<b>Deaths .....</b>	4,233	4,410	8.8	9.5	24,172	24,345	10.7	10.6	54,799	55,128	9.8	10.1	10.1
<b>Natural increase...</b>	1,620	2,122	3.4	4.6	6,509	6,681	2.9	2.9	20,855	20,975	3.8	3.8	3.8
<b>Marriages .....</b>	2,691	4,365	5.6	9.4	13,514	15,346	6.0	6.7	41,708	47,146	8.1	7.7	8.6
<b>Dissolutions .....</b>	2,050	1,932	4.3	4.2	10,120	11,343	4.5	4.9	25,141	25,879	4.7	4.6	4.7
<b>Infant deaths .....</b>	41	44	7.0	6.7	238	238	7.8	7.7	581	588	7.5	7.7	7.7
<b>Population base ....</b> (in thousands)	...	...	5,468	5,500	...	...	5,468	5,500	...	...	5,421	5,452	5,482

\* Rates for live births, deaths, natural increase, marriages and dissolutions are computed on the number per 1000 estimated population. The infant death rate is based on the number of infant deaths per 1000 live births. Rates are adjusted to account for varying lengths of monthly reporting periods.

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